

Ordinance No. 02-13

An Ordinance of the Navajo County Board of Supervisors, Amending the Navajo County Predatory Animal Ordinance, Ordinance No. 01-08, by Amending Article 6-Enforcement

WHEREAS, the Navajo County Predatory Animal Ordinance, Ordinance No. 01-08, comprehensively regulates the releasing of Predatory Animal within the boundaries of Navajo, County; and

WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has reintroduced Predatory Animals within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area, which consist of the entire Apache and Gila National Forests, a portion of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area is located within Navajo County; and

WHEREAS, the reintroduction of Predatory Animals within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area may result in an increase in human-predatory animal encounters that may result in threats, attacks, injuries and death of humans and livestock; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is concerned about potentially dangerous contacts in Navajo County in regard to the reintroduction of Predatory Animals within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public safety, and specifically in the interest of minimizing contact between humans and potentially dangerous species of Predatory Animals, jurisdictions across the United States have adopted regulations authorizing conduct that enables governmental officials and private citizens to take necessary action when confronted with Predatory Animals; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has the responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of Navajo County, and desires to increase its ability to protect human life, the general wellbeing of humans, livestock, and domesticated animals from Predatory Animals,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors that the Navajo County Predatory Animal Ordinance, Ordinance No. 01-08 is hereby amended by the insertion of the following new paragraphs in Article 6, with the current Article 6 (Enforcement) being renumbered adding the appropriate paragraphs to Article 6:

<u> Article 6 – Enforcement</u>

- 6.1 This Ordinance may be enforced by the County Enforcement Agent or any Deputy County Enforcement Agent appointed pursuant to the Navajo County Animal Control Ordinance (Ordinance No. 02-06), or by any peace officer.
- 6.2 Any individual may kill, injure or harass a predatory animal when and to the degree a reasonable person would believe that deadly force is immediately necessary to protect himself or to protect another person against a predatory animal because the predatory animal possesses an imminent threat of serious bodily harm to any individual.
- 6.3 Any individual may kill, injure or harass a predatory animal that is in the act of killing, wounding, biting, or attacking livestock.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Navajo County Board of Supervisors on September 24, 2013.

ATTEST:

Melissa W. Buckley, Clerk of the B

Navajo County Board of Supervisors

Jonathan M. Nez Chairman